

[Billing Code 3190-01-M]

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Implementation of the First Round of Accelerated Tariff Eliminations under Provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative

ACTION: Notification of articles proposed for accelerated tariff elimination under the North American Free Trade Agreement.

SUMMARY: Section 201(b) of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act of 1993 ("the Act") grants the President, subject to the consultation and lay-over requirements of section 103(a) of the Act, the authority to proclaim any accelerated schedule for duty elimination that may be agreed to by the United States, Mexico and Canada under Article 302(3) of the North American Free Trade Agreement ("the NAFTA"). This notice is intended to inform the public of those articles on which the United States, Canada and Mexico have provisionally agreed to accelerate the elimination of duties.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Office of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Office of the United States Trade Representative, Room 522, 600 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20508; telephone: (202) 395-3412; fax: (202) 395-9675.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following *Federal Register* notices provide information on the first round. Request for petitions appeared December 23, 1993 (58 FR 68186); a request for comments on list of products to be considered appeared May 23, 1994, (59, FR 26688).

Article 302 of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) permits the Parties to consider and agree to accelerate the elimination of customs duties on goods of a Party. Pursuant to this provision, the United States, Canada and Mexico solicited requests from interested parties in early 1994. At the request of the United States Government, the Parties agreed to consider requests on an expedited basis, and for that reason also agreed to consider a short list of items in the first round.

As a result, approximately 207 8-digit tariff subheadings or parts of subheadings were considered by the three Parties. As a part of the process, USTR requested the advice of the USITC and the private sector trade advisory groups. As has been practice under tariff acceleration rounds conducted under the provisions of the United States - Canada Free Trade Agreement, the United States did not agree to provide accelerated tariff elimination for those products subject to negative advice. In a similar manner, the governments of Canada and Mexico declined to agree to acceleration for products subject to negative comments by their interested parties.

The Parties did agree to accelerated tariff elimination on the remaining products, involving all or parts of approximately 80 8-digit tariff lines for which one or more of the Parties have

provisionally agreed to eliminate duties at the conclusion of the necessary domestic procedures. Two annexes are attached listing the agreed products. Annex 1 lists the products for which the United States proposes to immediately eliminate the remaining tariffs. Annex II also shows the U.S. reductions, as well as the comparable reductions agreed to by Canada and Mexico. As a rule, eliminations are being proposed on a reciprocal basis. For products that do not show such reciprocal elimination, it is in most cases due to the fact that duties have already been eliminated. The final column of the annex indicates those few cases where a Party declined to participate in the reductions.

As noted above, the relevant private sector advisory committees were consulted throughout this process, and have expressed no objection to eliminating tariffs for the products appearing in Annex I. In addition, the ITC provided a report to USTR indicating that the proposed eliminations would have no harmful impact on the United States.

The Parties intend to implement the accelerated tariff eliminations effective July 1, 1997. A separate *Federal Register* notice will be published shortly providing information on the initiation of a second round of NAFTA Accelerated Tariff Eliminations.

Peter F. Allgeier
Associate U.S. Trade Representative for the Western Hemisphere

Annex I NAFTA Tariff Acceleration Round One - U.S. Reductions

Short Product Description	US HS No.	Tariff Reduced for:	Comment
Processed Artichokes	20059080	Mexico	
Tahini	20081990	Canada	Acceleration on part of 8-digit number only
Trimethoprim	29335922	Mexico	Acceleration on part of 8-digit number only
Hexamethylenetetramine	29339087	Mexico	
Sulfamethoxazole	29350048	Mexico	Acceleration on part of 8-digit number only
Polyethylene tape laminated with thermoplastic adhesive	39219050	Canada	Acceleration on part of 8-digit number only
Venetian blinds of wood	44219040	Canada, Mexico	Acceleration on part of 8-digit number only
Elastomeric monofilaments of polyurethane	54041080	Mexico, Canada	Acceleration on part of 8-digit number only
Imitations of Catgut	56049000	Canada	
Metallized yarn	56050010 56050090	Mexico	
Woven fabrics of polyethylene, coated or laminated with plastics on one side only	59039025	Mexico	Acceleration on part of 8-digit number only
Printed Cotton towels	63029100	Mexico	Acceleration on part of 8-digit number only
Briquettes for gas fuel barbecues	68159940	Canada	Acceleration on part of 8-digit number only
Briquettes for gas fuel barbecues	69149080	Canada	Acceleration on part of 8-digit number only
Screws and bolts, whether or not with their nuts and washers, for aircraft	731815xx	Canada, Mexico	Acceleration on parts of 6-digit number only
Screws and bolts, whether or not with their nuts and washers, for aircraft, of nickel	750890xx	Canada	Acceleration on part of 6-digit number only
Casting-grade zinc, containing by weight less than 99.99% of zinc	79011210	Canada, Mexico	
Other zinc	79011250	Canada	
Screws and bolts, whether or not with their nuts and washers, for aircraft, of titanium	81089030	Canada	Acceleration on part of 8-digit number only
Electric switches, other than motor starter switches	85365080	Mexico	
Other bicycle parts	87149190	Mexico, Canada	
Appliance timers	910700XX	Canada	Acceleration on parts of 6-digit number only
Parts for appliance timers	91149030 91149050	Canada	Acceleration on part of 8-digit number only
Brushes constituting parts of machines	96035080	Canada	

ANNEX II	NAFTA Tariff Acceleration						Concordance
Product Description	US HS No.	Cnd HS No.	Mex HS No.	USA	Mexico	Canada	Comment
Processed Artichokes	20059080	N/A	48083002	M	US		US-Mex only
Tahini	20081990	20081990	20081999	C	US, C	US, M	
Sodium Cyanide	28371100	28371100	28371101		US, C		
2-Ethyl-hexanol	29051600	29051600	29051602		US, C	M	
Lovastatin and simvastatin	29322950	29322900	29322999		US, C	M	
Trimethoprim	29335922	29335900	29335906	M	US, C	M	
Enalapril maleate	29339053	29339000	29339057		US, C	M	
Hexamethylenetetramine	29339087	29339000	29339035	M		M	
Sulfamethoxazole	29350048	29350000	29350028	M	US, C	M	
Sulfamerizine	29350042	29350000	29350099		US, C	M	
Vitamin C and its derivatives	29362700	29362700	29362701		US, C		
Dexamethasone	29372200	29372200	29379909		US, C		
Tetracycline chlorohydrate	29413000	29413000	29413001		US, C	M	
Gentamycin	29419050	29419000	29419016		US, C	M	
Film without sprocket holes, of a width not exceeding 105 mm, for color photography (polychrome)	37023100	37023100	37023101		US, C		
Film without sprocket holes, of a width exceeding 610 mm and a length exceeding 200 mm, for color photography (polychrome)	37024100	37024100	37024101		US, C		
Film, for color photography (polychrome), of a width exceeding 16 mm but not exceeding 35 mm and a length not exceeding 30 m, for slides	37025300	37025300	37025301		US, C		
Film, for color photography (polychrome), of a width exceeding 16 mm but not exceeding 35 mm and a length not exceeding 30 m, other than	37025400	37025400	37025401		US, C		
Film, for color photography (polychrome), of a width exceeding 16 mm but not exceeding 35 mm and of a	37025500	37025500	37025501		US, C		
Black and white motion picture film, of a width not exceeding 16 mm and of a length exceeding 14 m	37029200	37029290	37029201		US, C		

ANNEX II	NAFTA Tariff Acceleration						Concordance
Product Description	US HS No.	Cnd HS	Mex HS	USA	Mexico	Canada	Comment
Venetian blinds of wood	44219040	44219040	44219099	C, M	US, C	US, M	
Paper of a kind for use in making masking tape	48083000	48083090	48083002		US, C		
Elastomeric monofilaments of polyurethane	54041080	54041090	54041005	M, C	C	US, M	
Imitations of Catgut	56049000	56049000	56049003 56049004	C		US	US-Can only
Metallized yarn	56050010 56050090	56050000	56050001	M	US, C	M	
Woven fabrics of polyethylene, coated or laminated with plastics on one side only	59039025	59039020	59039002	M	US		
Printed Cotton towels	63029100	63029100	63029101	M	US		
Briquettes for gas fuel barbecues	68159940	68159991 68159999	68159901 68159999	C		US	
Ceramic tableware, other than of porcelain or china	69120010 69120020 69120035 69120039 69120041 69120044 69120045 69120046 69120048 69120050	69120000	69120001 69120099		C	M	Mex-Can only
Briquettes for gas fuel barbecues	69149080	69149000	69149099	C		US, M	
Screws and bolts, whether or not with their nuts and washers, for aircraft	731815xx	73181500	73181501	C, M		US, M	
Screws and bolts, whether or not with their nuts and washers, for aircraft, of nickel	750890xx	75089020	75089099	C	US, C	US, M	
Casting-grade zinc, containing by weight less than 99.99% of zinc	79011210	79011200	79011201	C, M	US, C		
Other zinc	79011250			C			
Screws and bolts, whether or not with their nuts and washers, for aircraft, of titanium	81089030	81089090	81089099	C	US, C	US, M	
Scissors & Shears - Blanks & blades	82130030 82130060 82130090	82130020 82130030	82130001			US	
Tobacco drying machines	84199090	84193190	84193105		US, C		
Parts of tobacco drying machines		84199080	84199099		US, C	M	
Dishwashers	84221100	N/A	84221101		US		Mex-US only
Parts of dishwashers	84229002 84229004 84220006	N/A	84229002 84229003 84229004		US		

ANNEX II NAFTA Tariff Acceleration							
							Concordance
Product Description	US HS No.	Cnd HS	Mexico	US	Mex	Canada	Comment
Machines for cleaning by pressure	84243010 84243090	84243000	84243001		US, C	M	
Excavating machines	84295950	84295910 84295920 84295990	84295901		US, C		
Parts for excavating machines	84314100 84214990	84314190	84314101 84314103 84314199		US, C	M	
Other parts for excavating machines		84314990	84314902 84314999		US, C	M	
Clothes dryers	84512100	N/A	84512101 84512199		US		US-Mex only
Metal casting machines	84543000	84543010 84543090	84543001		US, C		
Metal processing machines	84798100	84798110 84798190	84798101		US, C		
Electric switches, other than motor starter switches	85365080	85365010 85365080 85365091 85365099	85365001 85365010 85365011	M			US-Mex only
Other bicycle parts	87149190			M, C			
Bicycle Hubs, other than coaster braking hubs and hub brakes, and free-wheel sprocket-wheels	87149305 84719315 84719324 84719328 84719335 84719370	87149300	87149301			M	
Bicycle parts, other than of subheading No. 8714.91, 8714.92, 8714.93, 8714.94, 8714.95 or 8714.96	87149910 87149950 87149960 87149980 87149990	87149920	87149901			M	Can-Mex only
Appliance timers	91070040 91070080	91070010 91070020 91070090	91070001	C		US, M	
Parts for appliance timers	91149030 91149050	91149020 91149030 91149090	91149001 91149099	C		US	
Brushes constituting parts of machines	96035080	96035090	96035001	C		US, M	

All remaining tariffs will be eliminated immediately. The 5th 6th and 7th columns show the reductions each country will provide for the other NAFTA Parties.